



Security Council

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**Letter dated 30 December 2011 from the Chair of the
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution
1521 (2003) concerning Liberia addressed to the President of the
Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2011 (see annex). The report, which was adopted by the Committee, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

(Signed) Nawaf Salam

Chair

Security Council Committee established pursuant
to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia



Annex**Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia****I. Introduction**

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011. The web page of the Committee is available from www.un.org/sc/committees/1521/index.shtml.

2. For 2011, the Bureau of the Committee consisted of Nawaf Salam (Lebanon) as Chair, with the delegations of Portugal and South Africa providing the Vice-Chairs. During the reporting period, the Committee held three informal consultations to consider, *inter alia*, the midterm (S/2011/367) and final (S/2011/757) reports of the Panel of Experts on Liberia, and to receive a briefing by the Special Representative of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to the United Nations.

II. Background information

3. Previous sanctions regimes concerning Liberia were imposed by the Security Council by its resolutions 788 (1992) and 1343 (2001), respectively. In its resolution 1521 (2003), the Council decided to revise the legal basis of the sanctions to reflect the changed circumstances in Liberia, in particular the departure of former President Charles Taylor, the formation of the National Transitional Government of Liberia and progress with the peace process in Sierra Leone. Under resolution 1521 (2003), the Council dissolved the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) and established a new Committee to oversee the implementation of the measures as modified and reimposed by the same resolution: an arms embargo, restrictions on the travel of individuals designated by the Committee on the basis of the criteria contained in the resolution, and prohibitions on the import of rough diamonds and round logs and timber products originating in Liberia. By resolution 1521 (2003) the Council also established a Panel of Experts consisting of up to five members, to provide the Committee with information regarding the implementation of the measures and progress made towards meeting the conditions for the lifting of sanctions. On 16 March 2004, the Committee issued a new travel-ban list, containing the names of individuals subject to travel restrictions imposed by paragraph 4 of resolution 1521 (2003).

4. In order to prevent former Liberian President Charles Taylor, his immediate family members, senior officials of the former Taylor regime, or other close allies or associates designated by the Committee from using misappropriated funds and property to interfere in the restoration of peace and stability in Liberia and the subregion, the Security Council decided, under paragraph 1 of resolution 1532 (2004), that all States would freeze without delay funds, other financial assets and economic resources owned or controlled directly or indirectly by Charles Taylor, Jewel Howard Taylor, Charles Taylor, Jr., and/or those other individuals designated by the Committee. On 14 June 2004, the Committee issued its initial list of individuals and entities subject to the measures contained in paragraph 1 of

resolution 1532 (2004) (the assets-freeze list). By paragraph 5 of resolution 1532 (2004), the Council further decided that it would review the measures imposed by paragraph 1 of that resolution at least once a year; no expiration date for those particular measures was provided in the resolution, however.

5. A summary of the imposition and extension of the various sanctions measures (excluding the assets freeze) together with the mandates of the Panel of Experts is contained in the table below:

<i>Resolution number and date</i>	<i>Arms embargo and travel ban extended for</i>	<i>Diamond sanctions extended for</i>	<i>Timber sanctions extended for</i>	<i>Panel of Experts established/extended for</i>	<i>Symbol of Panel's report</i>
Resolution 1521 (2003) 22 December 2003	12 months	12 months	12 months	5 months	S/2004/396 and Corr.1 and 2
Resolution 1549 (2004) 17 June 2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 months	S/2004/752 S/2004/955
Resolution 1579 (2004) 21 December 2004	12 months	6 months	12 months	6 months	S/2005/176 S/2005/360
Resolution 1607 (2005) 21 June 2005	n/a	6 months	n/a	6 months	S/2005/745
Resolution 1647 (2005) 20 December 2005	12 months	6 months	6 months	6 months	S/2006/379
Resolution 1689 (2006) 20 June 2006	n/a	6 months	(not renewed)	6 months	S/2006/976
Resolution 1731 (2006) 20 December 2006	12 months	6 months	n/a	6 months	S/2007/340
Resolution 1753 (2007) 27 April 2007	n/a	(terminated)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Resolution 1760 (2007) 20 June 2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 months	S/2007/689
Resolution 1792 (2007) 19 December 2007	12 months	n/a	n/a	6 months	S/2008/371
Resolution 1819 (2008) 18 June 2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 months	S/2008/785
Resolution 1854 (2008) 19 December 2008	12 months	n/a	n/a	12 months	S/2009/290 S/2009/640
Resolution 1903 (2009) 17 December 2009	12 months	n/a	n/a	12 months	S/2010/319 S/2010/609

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Resolution 1961 (2010) 17 December 2010	12 months	n/a	n/a	12 months	S/2011/367 S/2011/757
Resolution 2025 (2011) 14 December 2011	12 months	n/a	n/a	12 months	

6. Notably, by its resolution 1683 (2006), the Security Council, welcoming the leadership of the newly elected President and her efforts to restore peace, security and harmony throughout Liberia, modified the arms embargo to incorporate additional exemptions for the Liberian Special Security Service and, subject to advance approval by the Committee, for members of the Liberian police and security forces who have been vetted and trained since the inception of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) in October 2003.

7. By its resolution 1688 (2006), the Council decided that the travel restrictions imposed by resolution 1521 (2003) would not apply to former President Taylor for the purposes of any travel related to his trial before the Special Court for Sierra Leone, as well as any travel related to the execution of the judgement, and also to exempt from the travel ban the travel of any witnesses whose presence at the trial was required.

8. By its resolution 1689 (2006), the Council, concluding that sufficient progress had been made in meeting the conditions set out for terminating the measures on timber, decided not to renew the prohibitions on the import of round logs and timber products from Liberia; however, it also decided to review that decision after a period of 90 days and expressed its determination to reinstate the measures, unless forestry legislation as specified in the resolution had been passed. During the review, held on 20 October 2006, the members of the Council concluded that there was no basis for reinstating those measures as otherwise stipulated in the resolution.

9. By its resolution 1731 (2006), the Council, recognizing the need for newly vetted and trained Liberian security forces to assume greater responsibility for national security, and taking note of the need for Liberian armed forces to procure humanitarian, medical and/or training equipment, further modified the arms embargo to exclude supplies of non-lethal military equipment.

10. By its resolution 1753 (2007), the Council, concluding that sufficient progress had been made in meeting the conditions set out for terminating the measures on diamonds, decided to terminate those measures, almost two months ahead of their date of expiration as set by resolution 1689 (2006).

11. By its resolution 1792 (2007), the Council also decided that States would notify the Committee upon delivery of all arms and related materiel approved and supplied in accordance with paragraph 2 (e) of resolution 1521 (2003).

12. By its resolution 1903 (2009), the Council decided that for a period of 12 months the measures on arms shall not apply to the Government of Liberia and it renewed the measures for a period of 12 months with regard to all non-governmental entities and individuals operating in the territory of Liberia. In the same resolution, the Council also decided that all States shall notify the

Committee in advance of any shipment of arms and related materiel to the Government of Liberia or of any provision of assistance, advice or training related to military activities for the Government of Liberia.

13. By its resolution 1961 (2010), the Council renewed the arms embargo on all non-governmental entities and individuals operating in the territory of Liberia and the travel ban for a period of 12 months. By the same resolution, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Liberia until 16 December 2011, and included in the Panel's mandate, *inter alia*, a request to report on the implementation, and any violations, of the measures on arms as amended by resolution 1903 (2009). The Council also included in the Panel's mandate a request to assess the extent to which forests and other natural resources are contributing to peace, security and development rather than to instability and to what extent relevant legislation and other reform efforts are contributing to this transition, and to provide recommendations on how such natural resources could better contribute to Liberia's progress towards sustainable peace and stability.

14. By its resolution 2025 (2011), the Council renewed the arms embargo on all non-governmental entities and individuals operating in the territory of Liberia and the travel ban for a period of 12 months. By paragraph 5 of the resolution, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Liberia for the same period, and included in the Panel's mandate a request for the Panel to report on the implementation, and any violations, of the measures on arms as amended by resolution 1903 (2009). By paragraph 9 of resolution 2025 (2011), the Council reaffirmed the need for UNMIL and the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire to regularly coordinate their strategies and operations in areas near the Liberian-Côte d'Ivoire border, in order to contribute to subregional security.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

A. Requests for exemptions to the measures/notifications

15. During the reporting period, the Committee considered four requests for travel-ban waivers under paragraph 4 (c) of resolution 1521 (2003), all of which were granted (Jewel Howard Taylor, Simão Rosenblum, Mohamed Salame and Tupee Enid Taylor). With respect to the assets freeze, the Committee did not receive any notifications in connection with the exemption provisions contained in paragraphs 2 (a) and (b) of resolution 1532 (2004).

16. During the period under review, the Committee received five notifications in accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution 1903 (2009), by which the Council decided that all States should notify the Committee in advance regarding any shipment of arms and related materiel to the Government of Liberia, or any provision of assistance, advice or training related to military activities for the Government of Liberia.

17. In accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 1683 (2006), the Committee received, during the reporting period, four communications from UNMIL transmitting reports on the results of the Mission's inspections of inventories of weapons and ammunition obtained in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of that resolution, in order to ensure that all such weapons and ammunition were accounted for.

B. Review of the travel-ban and assets-freeze lists

18. The Committee received two de-listing requests through the focal point process in 2011. The process of consideration of the two requests, as well as of two other requests received by the Committee in 2010, was not concluded by the end of the reporting period.

19. On 4 August 2011, the Committee updated the list of individuals subject to the travel ban imposed by paragraph 4 (a) of resolution 1521 (2003) and the list of individuals and entities subject to the assets freeze imposed by paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 1532 (2004), based on information provided by the Panel of Experts on Liberia. In that connection, the Committee issued a press release on 8 August 2011 (SC/10356).

20. On 23 December 2011, the Committee further updated the list of individuals subject to the travel ban imposed by paragraph 4 (a) of resolution 1521 (2003) and the list of individuals and entities subject to the assets freeze imposed by paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 1532 (2004), based on information provided by three members of the Committee and the Panel of Experts. In that connection, the Committee issued a press release on 30 December 2011 (SC/10510).

C. Implementation of the sanctions regime

21. In 2011, the Committee received no additional replies from States in response to its note verbale dated 20 January 2004 seeking information on the implementation of the sanctions measures imposed by resolution 1521 (2003); thus, the total number of replies received remains 17. The Committee also received no additional replies from States in response to its note verbale of 14 June 2004; thus, the total number of replies received remains 15. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (d) of resolution 1532 (2004), that note verbale sought information from all States regarding the actions they had taken to trace and freeze the funds, other financial assets and economic resources described in that resolution.

22. In its final report pursuant to paragraph 6 (f) of Security Council resolution 1961 (2010) (S/2011/757), the Panel of Experts reviewed the activities of Liberian combatants during the 2011 Ivorian conflict in order to better assess the future disposition of the groups currently residing in Liberia. The Panel observed that Liberian mercenary command structures in the Ivorian conflict were fluid and relied on an alliance of generals who often activated their own recruits, mainly drawn from unemployed Liberian ex-combatants.

23. The Panel also obtained testimony concerning the substantive overlap between the military operations of Liberian mercenaries and certain pro-Gbagbo Ivorian militias, whose forces were residing in Liberia and were intermingled with Ivorian refugees. While these groups likely did not pose an immediate threat to Liberian or Ivorian national security, the Panel of Experts recognized the potential that the groups could attempt to destabilize areas along the Liberian-Ivorian border, which would enhance localized insecurity and exacerbate land tenure conflicts in western Côte d'Ivoire, especially if harassment attacks were coordinated and sustained. The Panel further concluded that the immediate availability of illicit weapons would not define the future disposition of these groups. Instead, the availability of financing would likely be the determining factor.

24. In terms of other findings, the Panel of Experts also observed that the Government of Liberia had not taken action to implement the assets freeze. In this context, by paragraph 1 of resolution 2025 (2011), adopted on 14 December 2011, the Security Council noted with serious concern the lack of progress with regard to the implementation of the assets freeze and demanded that the Government of Liberia make all necessary efforts to fulfil its obligations.

D. Other activities

25. During its informal consultations on 15 June 2011, the Committee received a briefing from the Panel of Experts on its midterm report (S/2011/367), submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 (f) of resolution 1961 (2010), and discussed the recommendations contained therein. Subsequently, on 23 June 2011, the Chair briefed the Security Council during its consultations on the deliberations of the Committee on the Panel's midterm report.

26. In its midterm report, the Panel of Experts also reiterated its recommendation that the Committee explore with INTERPOL the preparation of INTERPOL-United Nations special notices for the individuals whose names are contained in the travel-ban list. In pursuance of that recommendation, the Committee transmitted a letter dated 14 July 2011 to the Special Representative of INTERPOL to the United Nations, inviting him to a future Committee meeting for an exchange of views in terms of how the Committee could best consider the preparation of INTERPOL-United Nations special notices.

27. On 19 August 2011, the Special Representative held an exchange of views with the Committee in informal consultations, and on 15 September, following a silence procedure, the Committee agreed on procedures for cooperation with INTERPOL in the creation of INTERPOL-United Nations special notices. The agreement marked the first occasion that another Sanctions Committee would utilize the special notices mechanism since 2005, when the first special notices were published for individuals on the Consolidated List of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1898 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities.

28. On 9 December 2011, the Chair briefed the Security Council during its consultations on the main findings contained in the final report of the Panel of Experts (S/2011/757) submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 (f) of resolution 1961 (2010). The Committee received a briefing from the Panel of Experts on its final report and discussed the recommendations contained therein during its informal consultations on 30 November 2011.

29. On 30 December 2011, the Committee dispatched letters to the following, drawing attention to relevant recommendations contained in the final report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia (S/2011/757): the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations of Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire; the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Liberia; the Chairperson of the Kimberley Process; the Gold and Diamond Workers Union of Liberia; the Federation of Miners Associations of Liberia; the Liberian Diamond and Gold Dealers Association; the Rubber Planters Association of Liberia; the Special Representative of the World Bank to the United Nations; the Head of Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations; and the Administrator of the Agency for International Development of the United States of America.

IV. Observations

30. The Committee continues to rely on the reporting of the Panel of Experts to monitor the implementation of the remaining sanctions measures and to keep abreast with various developments in the area of natural resources.